



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES

NEWS RELEASE

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ACEC Opposes John McCain's Proposed Gas Tax Suspension

WASHINGTON, DC -- ACEC President David A. Raymond on Thursday voiced strong opposition to a proposed amendment by Senator John Kyl (R-AZ) on behalf of Senator John McCain (R-AZ) that would have temporarily suspended the federal gas tax.

Senator Kyl withdrew the amendment in the face of general opposition from his colleagues and industry organizations. Senator McCain had advocated suspension of the tax throughout this week while campaigning for the White House.

“The proposed suspension of the tax was exceedingly bad policy at a time when this revenue is essential to keeping pace with critical transportation needs,” Raymond said, adding that “the bad precedent would create worse problems down the line, including lower transportation investment.”

In a letter to Senators, Raymond said: “If adopted, it would seriously disrupt repairs, risk fatalities, and do harm to the nation’s economy. There also is no guarantee that reducing or eliminating the gas tax would result in savings passed on to the consumer.”

The American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) is the business association of America’s engineering industry, representing approximately 5,700 independent engineering companies throughout the United States engaged in the development of America’s transportation, environmental, industrial, and other infrastructure. Founded in 1910 and headquartered in Washington, D.C., ACEC is a national federation of 51 state and regional organizations.